

Vermont Incarceration Fact Sheet

Office of Vermont Attorney General – December 3, 2015

Incarceration

- The national incarcerated population (in state and federal prisons) has increased almost five-fold since 1975.
- Vermont's incarcerated population has increased by over 300% since 1974 – now 1,800 individuals – while the general population has increased by just 35%.
- Many incarcerated Vermonters are pre-trial detainees (over 350) or have been held beyond their minimum release date (over 650), often for lack of appropriate housing.
- Vermont's incarcerated population has exceeded capacity for more than 15 years, and approximately 290 inmates are currently housed in an out-of-state prison in Michigan.
- 90% of Vermont's incarcerated population will eventually be released into the community.
- At this time, more than 6,000 children in Vermont are affected by a parent's incarceration,

Costs

- Corrections spending has increased approximately 2000% since FY75.
- It costs nearly \$60,000 annually for each individual incarcerated in Vermont.

Crime Rates

- The rate of violent crime nationally has dropped 50% in last 20 years.
- Vermont's rate of violent crime is approximately 1/3 of the national average.